

7/14/08 (27)

Christine Joyce

From: Marcia Rich
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 4:10 PM
To: Dean Charter; Manager Department; Frank Widmayer
Subject: RE: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

Dear all,

I have to again recommend strongly against holding this event in Town Hall parking lot.

I have been on-site for the sale on at least 3-4 occasions, including the one in Spring 2008. The detail officer, who was not an Acton officer, was ineffective and there were cars parked next to fire hydrants and too close to driveways. As there aren't sidewalks on Woodbury Lane, people, many with small children in tow, had to walk in the street to get to the sale as cars tried to navigate the road, the lower parking lot entrance, and the entrance to Minuteman Rd. Residents complained about the lack of parking for library use and one person indicated that the event and the resultant parking problems were among the reasons he will no longer contribute to the AML Foundation's Annual Appeal.

It's great and startlingly to those of us who have seen the traffic and the pedestrians that there haven't been any serious incidents in the past, but does someone have to be killed or crippled before the wisdom of holding this elsewhere is acknowledged?

If this were the only paved lot in town it would be one thing, but there are the schools, NARA, church or temple lots, etc. Holding the event in the traffic circle in front of Parker Damon would give the group far more and safer parking and walking without compromising the use of the library, which makes the taxpayers mighty testy.

Marcia Rich, MLS/MBA
Director
Acton Memorial Library

From: Dean Charter
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 3:11 PM
To: Manager Department
Cc: Frank Widmayer; Marcia Rich; Dayle MacGillivray; 'mariahstraayer@yahoo.com'
Subject: FW: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

Attached please find a periodic request from the Acton Family Network to hold a tag sale in the Town Hall parking lot on Saturday, September 20.

I feel that this is a reasonable request from a well established charitable organization. AFN has held a number of such events in the past without serious incidents.

I recommend approval, pending any comments from the Town Staff noted above.

Regards,

Dean A. Charter, MCPPO
Municipal Properties Director
Town of Acton

7/7/2008

From: Mariah Straayer [mailto:]
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 7:57 AM
To: Dean Charter
Cc: mariahstraayer@yahoo.com
Subject: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

TO Dean Charter
RE AFN Kid's Stuff Tag Sale proposed date – FALL 2008 & sign approval

Thank you for taking the time to review our proposed date for the Fall Kid's Stuff Tag Sale. And thank you for reviewing our request to put up an A frame sign, approx. 2 ft by 2 ft on the Common to announce the sale.

AFN began holding the Kid's Stuff Tag Sale in the fall of 2000. For the last five years, we held a sale in the Spring also because the Fall sale was so well attended. This letter proposes the Fall date, to be approved at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Specific Details:

Event: AFN's Fall Kid's Stuff Tag Sale
Proposed date: Saturday, September 20th, 2008
Hours: 8am – noon
Location: Town Hall parking lot

Purpose: sale of new and gently-worn infant, children, and maternity clothing, baby equipment and toys. All proceeds from the table fees and AFN bake sale table will be donated to a local charity. Previous recipients were Danny's Place, First Connections, the Julie Cotter Bartlett Trust Fund and Home Goods Recycling Ministries.

Setup/Clean up: As we have done for all previous tag sales, AFN will set up / clean up the area of the sale. We will ask that traffic signs (parking one side only) be put out *the night before* the event and cover Woodbury, Minuteman and Newtown Rd. For the last three sales we have hired a detail officer to control traffic. Sellers will be asked to drop off their items early and park behind the Fire Station and, with permission, behind the Congregational Church.

For reference, some other Acton-oriented events include:

13th Annual Family Fun Day
7th Annual Barbecue
Kindergarten Social
New Baby Event
Halloween Party

About Acton Family Network (AFN)

AFN is a group of local parents working together to increase and improve Acton's resources for families with young children. AFN members share the goal of connecting with other parents and families in order to develop social, recreational, and cultural opportunities for Acton families and their young children.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at

7/7/2008

978-263-0656 or mariahstraayer@yahoo.com.

Toodles,
Mariah Straayer
AFN Tag Sale Coordinator
www.actonfamily.org

Christine Joyce

From: Marcia Rich
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 4:52 PM
To: Frank Widmayer; Dean Charter; Manager Department
Subject: RE: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

Gee, I was hoping the goal was more than survival---

A big difference in this event (vs. the Garden Club plant sale or the Friends book sale or a big meeting in 204) is that so many people have multiple little kids with them. The parents aren't paying sufficient attention, the kids are heedless of traffic while walking and in the cars the youngsters distract the parents as they try to drive through a scene that more street fair than street.

I think AFN is a fine organization and I'm glad they do what they do, I just think it would be much safer and better if they did it at one of the many other possible sites in town--the PSF parking lot might be a good one.

From: Frank Widmayer
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 4:37 PM
To: Marcia Rich; Dean Charter; Manager Department
Subject: RE: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

Probably never, but I've been at Willow Books on Rt. 2A when Tedi Bruschi was signing autographs and somehow the town survived.

Frank J. Widmayer III
Chief of Police
(978) 263-2911

From: Marcia Rich
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 4:10 PM
To: Frank Widmayer; Dean Charter; Manager Department
Subject: RE: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

How many times have you been on site during this event?

From: Frank Widmayer
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 3:35 PM
To: Dean Charter; Manager Department
Cc: Marcia Rich; Dayle MacGillivray; 'mariahstraayer@yahoo.com'
Subject: RE: Fall AFN Tag Sale & sign approval...

I am fine with this request. The organizers should contact Safety Officer Bob Cowan a week or so prior to the event to coordinate the signage.

Frank J. Widmayer III
Chief of Police
(978) 263-2911

From: Dean Charter
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 3:11 PM

7/7/2008